federal register

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Part VII

Environmental Protection Agency

Financial Assistance Program Eligible for Intergovernmental Review; Notice

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OGWDW-FRL-4123-8]

Financial Assistance Program Eligible for Intergovernmental Review

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability and review.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (OGWDW) is announcing the availability of $1,400,000 to fund a Demonstration Cooperative Agreement Program, "Wellhead Protection (WHP) Demonstration Projects." These funds will provide financial support for demonstration projects aimed at assisting municipalities to design and implement a WHP Program. The cooperative agreements are authorized under section 1442(b)(3)(C) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). It is expected that at least 30 awards in amounts up to $50,000 will be made to municipalities. Eligible applicants are municipalities, as defined under section 1401(10) of the SDWA, meaning cities, towns, or other public bodies created by or pursuant to State law, or Indian tribes.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The appropriate EPA Regional Contact listed below in "Supplementary Information."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 1986 Amendments to the SDWA established the WHP Program to protect those ground waters that supply wells and wellfields contributing drinking water to public water supply systems. Local governments play an important part in implementing a State WHP Program because of their significant roles in delineation and management of the Wellhead Protection Area(s) (WHPA) in their communities.

In fiscal year 1992, EPA will make available $1,400,000 for grants to local communities to enhance and expand their efforts in projects that will concentrate on local issues related to protection of wellhead areas. WHP Program Demonstration Project funds will be awarded through cooperative agreements under the authority of section 1442(b)(3)(C) of the SDWA. Any municipality as defined in the SDWA, section 1401(10) is eligible to apply for WHP Program Demonstration Project funds. If a municipality (including tribes) plans to award these funds to other State and local agencies, counties, universities, and organizations, including contractors, to carry out elements of the work, this fact must be indicated in the application.

It is the intention of the EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (OGWDW) to fund a total of between 30 and 60 projects with awards up to $50,000. Recipients will be required to contribute at least 5% of the total cost of their project in dollars or in-kind goods/services. Cooperative Agreements will be funded by the Regional Offices. EPA Regional staff will act as project officers on projects awarded within their Region, with Headquarters providing national oversight and coordination.

Because municipalities can help to test approaches that may be appropriate on a Statewide basis, EPA expects that these Cooperative Agreement funds will be useful in assisting States in developing or implementing effective WHP programs. Municipalities have a responsibility to coordinate their proposed projects with their State. The information gained in this process also will serve to assist local governments in the implementation of wellhead protection in their communities and, from information acquired through these demonstration projects, help implement wellhead protection throughout the United States.

Funds that are awarded under this Cooperative Agreement Program must be used to support activities that address the problems relating to a municipal WHP Program. Appropriate activities could include, but not be limited to: delineation of the WHPA, identifying potential sources of contamination, developing ordinances for WHP, and establishing mechanisms for integrating other source management programs into WHP objectives. Proposals should reflect comprehensive and coordinated planning, and the necessary steps to implement the project plans. Projects in all stages of development, from established programs to those needing startup funds, will be eligible for support.

To apply for funds, municipalities must:

(1) Submit a letter of intent to the EPA Region (see names and addresses below) where the organization is located by June 1, 1992. This letter must be signed by the organization's authorized official. To expedite processing, the envelope should include the program title: WHP Demonstration Projects.

(2) Submit a complete application package to the appropriate Region by July 16, 1992. Applicants should clearly identify the program by typing Wellhead Protection Demonstration Projects, Catalog #66.465 in box 10 on the application form (SF424). To expedite processing, the envelope should include the program title: WHP Demonstration Projects.

Applications postmarked after July 16, 1992 will not be considered for an award.

An application package will be available from the EPA Regional Contact in [insert month and year of publication]. The application package will contain all appropriate EPA grant application forms needed to submit a formal application to the EPA Regional Grants Management Office as well as an additional guidance document titled "Wellhead Protection Demonstration Projects: Guidance for FY 1992 Cooperative Agreement Funds." (The Guidance includes the general criteria against which applications will be evaluated.) The Regional Contacts will send applications to all eligible organizations within the Region who submit a letter of intent to participate. They will also act as the point of contact to discuss applicants' proposals and to help them understand the goals and process for the program. For further information, please contact the EPA Office of Ground Water in the appropriate Region. The names and phone numbers are listed below:

EPA Region I (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT) Rob Adler, Ground Water Management Section, Water Management Division, U.S. EPA, Region I—WGT-445, JFK Federal Building, Boston, MA 02203, (617) 565-3600.

EPA Region II (NJ, NY, PR, VI) Dore LaPosta, Ground Water Management Section, Water Management Division, U.S. EPA, Region II—rm 842, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278, (212) 264-5635.

EPA Region III (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV) Virginia Thompson, Office of Ground Water, Water Management Division, U.S. EPA, Region III, 841 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, (215) 597-2786.

EPA Regional IV (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN) Beverly Houston, Ground Water Protection Branch, Water Management Division, U.S. EPA, Region IV, 345 Courtland St., NE., Atlanta, GA 30365, (404) 347-3866.

EPA Region V (IL, IN, MI, OH, MN, WI) Jerri-Anne Garl, Ground Water Protection Branch (WG-16J), Water Division, U.S. EPA, Region V, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 886-1490.

EPA Region VI (AR, LA, OK, NM, TX) Erlece Allen, Office of Ground Water (6W-A), Water Management Division, U.S. EPA, Region VI, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75202-2733, (214) 655-6446.

EPA Region VII (IA, KS, MO, NE) Robert Fenemore, Office of Ground Water Protection, Water Management Division, U.S. EPA, Region VII, 726 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66101, (913) 551-7033.

EPA Region VIII (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY) James Dunn, Ground Water Branch (8WMGW), Water Management Division,

U.S. EPA, Region VIII, 999 18th Street, Denver, CO 80202-2405, (303) 294-1135.

Region IX (AS, AZ, CA, GU, HI, NV, PU) Doris Betuel, Ground Water Protection Section (W-6-3), Water Management Division, U.S. EPA, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, (415) 744-1831.

EPA Region X (AK, ID, OR WA) William Mullen, Office of Ground Water (WD-139), Water Management Division, U.S. EPA, Region, X, 1200 6th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101, (206) 553-1216.

The WHP Demonstration Projects program is eligible for intergovernmental review under Executive Order 12372. States' Single Point of Contact (SPOC) must notify the following office in writing within thirty days of this publication whether their State's official E.O. 12372 process will review applications in this program: Grants policies and Procedures Branch, Grants Administration Division, PM-216F, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St. SW., Washington, DC 20460; Attention: Ellen Haffa.

Applicants must contact their State's SPOC for intergovernmental review as early as possible to determine if the program is subject to the State's official E.O. 12372 process and what material must be submitted to the SPOC for review. In addition, applications including projects within metropolitan area must be sent by applicants to the areawide/regional/local planning agency designated to perform metropolitan or regional planning for the area for the agency review.

SPOCs and other reviewers should send their comments concerning applications to the appropriate EPA Regional Grants Management Office, no later than sixty days after receipt of an application/other required materials for review. To expedite processing, the envelope should include the program title: WHP Demonstration Projects.

Dated: April 9, 1992.

Martha G. Prothro,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Water.

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